

# WAR PLOT IS LAID IN NEW YORK AND CANADIAN BRIDGE BLOWN UP

## TWO FLEETS OF AIRSHIPS DROP 100 BOMBS ON RAIDS OVER FIVE FRENCH CITIES

Paris War Office Claims Gains for the British and French Troops—Berlin Calls All These Reports "Grotesque Inventions."

LONDON, Feb. 2.—News of two German air raids in Belgium and France in which twelve airships took part, dropping, all told, nearly one hundred explosive bombs and flaming torpedoes, together with reports of a contemplated raid on Britain, aroused fear to-day in London.

There were two squadrons of air raiders. One composed of six airships was over Dunkirk on Sunday night. The British army headquarters in France are at that port. The raid of the other squadron of six machines was over Pont-a-Mousson, Nancy, Lunéville and Remiremont, in Eastern France.

The aviators at Dunkirk approached from the sea, and nothing was known of their presence until a bomb was dropped about 1.30 o'clock Sunday night. Searchlights at once began to sweep the sky, and anti-aircraft guns opened fire.

For two hours the fight was kept up, and the residents kept indoors listening to noise of the anti-aircraft shells, the reports of the airships' bombs and the cracking of machine guns fired by the allies, and also, it is believed, from the aeroplanes.

More than sixty bombs, either explosive or incendiary, were dropped. The bombs fell all over the town. Notwithstanding the darkness, several incendiary aeroplanes got under way and flew in pursuit of the raiders.

The other raid was in the region southeast of Verdun. A squadron of six airships dashed out of Metz and crossed the French line near Pont-a-Mousson. Low hung clouds protected the aviators.

They first came into view over Pont-a-Mousson as they swooped earthward and began dropping explosives into the streets. "No serious damage was done in the town itself, but in one of the suburbs an aged man was torn to pieces when a bomb dropped at his feet."

The sky raiders next appeared over Nancy. A rattling rifle fire from the garrison disconcerted them somewhat and they flew in wide circles about the outskirts of the city, hurling more bombs.

One missile exploded in the narrow courtyard of a school, a few minutes before the recess period had ended, and 200 children, playing in the courtyard, had fled indoors. A nine-year-old boy was hit.

At Lunéville, when the first monoplane was sighted rushing down from Nancy, all residents took to their cellars. The Germans tossed several bombs at a large factory. At Remiremont a bomb crashed to earth at the door of a maternity hospital.

### OFFICIAL GERMAN REPORT.

## French Accounts Distorted, Says the War Office in Berlin

BERLIN (by wireless to Sayville, N. Y.), Feb. 2. (Associated Press).—The following report was issued to-day by the War Office:

"In the western arena of the war there have been artillery exchanges at several points. With this exception there is nothing important to report."

"The above is in direct conflict with to-day's report from Paris, which reports attacks on the Belgians along the Yser, gains for the British at Culinchy, and for the French between Bethune and La Bassée."

"There have been no important developments on the East Prussian frontier."

"In Poland, north of the River Vistula and near Lipno, we have had encounters with detachments of Russian cavalry. South of the Vistula our attacks continue to make progress."

"Continuing, to-day's report says that the French war reports, during the last few days, have contained grotesque distortions of the truth to the disadvantage of the Germans, as well as what is characterized as 'free inventions.' The staff declines to go into details in this regard, saying the value of the French statements is apparent to any one who will examine them in the light of the German official reports."

### OFFICIAL FRENCH REPORT.

## Gains by Belgians and British Claimed by Paris War Office

PARIS, Feb. 2. (Associated Press).—Following is the text of the report given out to-day by the French War Office:

"The day of February 1 was marked by redoubled intensity in the artillery fighting on our part as well as that of the enemy, and by a series of German attacks, of relatively secondary importance, all of which were repulsed with serious losses for the aggressors when compared to the numbers of men they had engaged."

"In Belgium the German heavy artillery gave evidence of its greatest activity on the front of the Belgian troops, and particularly against the various points of support which these troops have been occupying for some time in the region of the Yser. Around Tournai the cannonading was at some

places exceedingly violent. "Between the Yser and the Somme a German regiment attacked a British position near Culinchy and at first drove the English soldiers back. After a series of counter attacks the British troops reoccupied the ground they had lost, then advanced into new territory, taking possession of trenches of the enemy."

"The engagement reported in the announcement given out the night of Feb. 1, which took place along the roadway between Bethune and La Bassée, was particularly brilliant for our infantry. It seems that the Germans had at least one battalion in this engagement. The two first attacks were broken by our fire. The

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## SUBWAY TIED UP THREE TIMES BY ELECTRIC FIRES

One Packed Express Train  
Races Through Flames  
Along Track.

IN DARK 15 MINUTES.

Separate Blazes Caused by  
Moisture Put Trains Out  
of Commission.

Three fires following blow-outs in signal boxes and third rail connections of the subway within a little more than five hours of each other to-day tangled traffic and brought to the minds of many timorous passengers recollections of the disaster of Jan. 3 at Fifty-fifth Street.

The fires occurred near the Seventy-ninth Street station at 4 o'clock; under Seventy-fifth Street at 5.50 o'clock and at the Spring Street station at 9.40 o'clock. The block caused by the blow-out and fire at Seventy-fifth Street station was the most serious of the three and was aggravated by the third accident at the Spring Street curve occurring just as a partial resumption of service was under way.

Nobody was hurt in any of the displays of electrical pyrotechnics and, barring incipient panic on some of the stalled trains north of the break in the current at Seventy-fifth Street, there were no untoward incidents.

The Seventy-fifth Street blow-out, most serious because it caused a congestion of traffic just as the morning rush was beginning to diminish, occurred in two signal boxes affixed to the pillars of the street supports. One signal box was screwed into a pillar between the northbound local and northbound express tracks; a second on a pillar between the north and southbound express tracks. They were connected by an insulated cable running in the cinders of the roadbed under the ties and rails.

Moisture seeping down from the sloppy street above found its way into the easternmost of these two boxes and caused a short circuit and blowout at exactly 5.50. The blow-out was communicated by the underground wire to the companion box between the north and south subway tracks, and this one began to spout flames. A six-inch section of the third rail, feeding north-bound express, melted under the great heat generated, and the underground wire, growing to incandescent heat under the congested current passing through it, set all surrounding cinders into a red glow and started fires in the ties.

A northbound express train was about 100 feet south of the spot when the explosions occurred and electric flames began playing across the tracks ahead of it. Without hesitating, the motorman put on extra power and drove his train right over the fire. The passengers got a 3.2-second's flash of meteor-like flames on either side, but knew nothing more of the damage done.

CONDUCTORS TOLD PASSENGERS TO WALK BACK.

But the next train to approach was a southbound local. Its motorman stopped about forty feet north of the blazing ties and sparking signal boxes, whistling for his conductor. When the latter official had hurried to the front of the train and seen what lay ahead he ordered the motorman to leave the train where it was, then walked back through the cars calling, "Small fire on the tracks ahead. All wishing to walk back to Seventy-

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## Bombs Fired Into the Air to Light Up Enemy's Position at Night



BROWN AND CAWSON  
FIRE BALLS TO INDICATE  
LOCATION OF TRAMWAYS

## SMALL FIRE HALTS SCHOOL AND COURT

Nine Hundred Pupils March to  
Safety in East Thirty-second  
Street.

Five men were at work repairing automobiles in the Standard Utility Garage at No. 204 East Thirty-third Street before noon to-day, when an electric drop light fell into the machinery of one, causing a short circuit. The oil and gasoline soaked frame took fire and flames spread to the clothing of Joseph Kischler, twenty-one, of No. 209 East Twenty-fifth Street.

He yelled for some one to get him a blanket, but the others dashed out of the garage. Kischler, blazing from head to foot, ran out into the street and threw himself into a puddle of water and snow.

Next door to the rear of the garage, on East Thirty-second Street, is Public School No. 116, containing 900 pupils, ranging in age from the kindergarten classes to boys and girls of twelve. Twenty teachers marshaled their classes and all descended quickly to the yard.

The garage was partly destroyed and ten autos were consumed by the fire. The loss is \$12,000.

## "DIAMOND QUEEN" ON TRIAL FOR GEM THEFT

Charged With Stealing \$185,000,  
With Aid of Cousin, From  
Dealers.

The trial of Antoinette Bonner, known as "Miss Amethyst" and the Diamond Queen, and her cousin, Joseph Brecker-Kissinger, for the alleged robbery of Maiden Lane merchants of \$158,000 worth of diamonds was begun this afternoon before Judge Crain and a jury in General Sessions. The specific charge against the couple is the larceny of \$75,000 worth of diamonds from Francis E. Cocks of No. 7 Maiden Lane. Brecker-Kissinger was formerly a jeweler and the "Diamond Queen" sold diamonds and other gems for the dealers of Maiden Lane. She numbered among her customers people on Fifth Avenue, Riverside Drive and in the best hotels.

## FOUR MEN ARE DROWNED AS DREDGE OVERTURNS

Seven Narrowly Escape When  
"The Eastern" Turns Turtle in  
Port Jefferson Harbor.

Four men were drowned in the harbor at Port Jefferson, L. I., early this morning when a steam dredge owned by the Eastern Gravel Company of New York went adrift in the storm and turned turtle. Seven other men succeeded in reaching the beach and were taken to Port Jefferson.

The dredge, called The Eastern, had been working in the harbor more than a month. It was two hundred feet long and at night was anchored with the eleven workmen on board.

The Eastern broke loose during the night from its moorings a half mile off shore. It was washed within 200 feet of the outer breakwater and then tipped over in the storm. It drifted in and piled up on the beach three miles northwest of Port Jefferson.

The four men drowned were Henry McCracken, of Brooklyn, William Flynn of Manhattan and Conrad Forberg and John Hansen, both of South Brooklyn. A tug searched all day for their bodies.

## WHEAT JUMPS TO \$1.65; MARKET IN A WHIRL

Another High Record and Big  
Gains Cause Uproar Among  
Traders in Chicago Pit.

CHICAGO, Feb. 2.—Wheat raced upward in price to-day, first sales showing a jump of 3½ cents a bushel. The May delivery touched \$1.60, the top figure to which the market went in the famous deal by James A. Patton in 1909.

On a second strong swell the market swept upward in the last hour to \$1.64 for May and closed at \$1.64, a gain of 8½ cents a bushel, compared with last night. Transactions in the May option became so hazardous that the bulk of trading shifted to the July delivery.

The wildest scenes heretofore enacted in the local pit were orderly compared with the behavior of traders during to-day's skyrocketing.

## BOASTS HE SLEW EIGHT IN CROWDED OLD FOLKS' HOME

Man Walks Into District-Attorney's Office, and Gives  
Himself Up.

EIGHT PEOPLE DIED.

Odd Fellows Home at Yonkers  
Says They Succumbed From  
Natural Causes.

A tall, well set up man, wearing a natty suit of Alpine hunting clothes, knickers and dainty feathered hat complete, walked into the office of District Attorney Perkins today and announced himself as the murderer of eight people.

"I have come to surrender myself," he said to Policeman Louis Gray at the door of the District Attorney's private office. "Behold, you see before you the slayer of eight superannuated octogenarians, who were of no more use in the world."

The stranger said this with a low bow and flourish of his feathered cap. Assistant District Attorneys Conlon and Murphy were summoned at once and to them the man in the hunting suit told his story calmly, speaking with a slight Germanic accent.

"My name is Fred Mors (which is the Latin word for death), I am thirty-five years old and it is immaterial where I live or who I am. I will say I am a graduate from Heidelberg University. I came here some time ago and obtained a position as a nurse in the Odd Fellows' Home at Yonkers. I was discharged from there last Sunday for reasons which will be apparent to you as you hear my story."

"The manager of the home is Perkit. He knew I was an educated man, skilled in the use of medicines. The home was becoming rapidly overcrowded and it was necessary to make room for more inmates by the removal of the oldest ones there, who had long outlived their usefulness in the world. He and I were in perfect agreement on the theory of the killing of the unfit—it was an old Greek practice, you know."

"So under his direction I began a short time ago to kill off the octogenarians. To Hensel I gave arsenic. Hensel I removed with morphine. Garst, Horn and Schults I chloroformed while they slept. The three old ladies, Mrs. Piazzi, Mrs. Trey and Mrs. Hensler, I also chloroformed while they slept."

"All of the jobs were done neatly, scientifically. I have a pardonable pride in my workmanship. But because I knew too much the superintendent there feared me, and last Sunday I was discharged without any reason given. Since then I have determined that I have violated the law, even though I believe in the killing of the unfit, so I come to give myself up."

When the man had completed his story Assistant District Attorney Murphy communicated with the Yonkers authorities and the superintendent of the Odd Fellows' Home there, and learned that the people the mysterious Mors had named as his victims had, in truth, all died recently, but that their deaths had been attributed to natural causes.

Murphy had the murder confessor taken to the Centre Street Court, where he was committed to the psychopathic ward at Bellevue for observation as to his sanity. Meanwhile the Yonkers authorities have been requested to make inquiry into the deaths of the eight people named by Mors and to investigate his association with the Odd Fellows Home.

## GERMAN ARMY MAN ADMITS USING NITRO; DEMANDS AID OF U. S.

Werner Van Horn, Officer, Who Says  
He Did It as an "Act of War," Claims  
Protection of This Country Under  
International Laws of Warfare.

## LEFT THIS CITY FRIDAY TO DESTROY STRUCTURE

(Special to The Evening World.)

VANCEBORO, Me., Feb. 2.—One of the three spans of the bridge of the Canadian Pacific Railroad spanning the St. Croix River, which forms the international boundary line between Eastern Maine and New Brunswick, Can., was wrecked early to-day by nitro-glycerine planted by a man giving the name of Werner Van Horn and claiming to be an officer in the service of the German Emperor.

Van Horn, who speaks broken English and says he arrived here last Saturday from New York, was taken into custody at a hotel here by Deputy Sheriff Ross, who was accompanied by a Maine Central Railroad detective and two Canadian officers from McAdam Junction, across the river.

Van Horn said his attempt to destroy the bridge was an act of war, in his pocket were found two German automatic revolvers, a German flag, a fulminating cap and a plan of the bridge.

The span damaged by the explosion is on the New Brunswick side of the river and the service over the bridge will be delayed until emergency repairs can be made. This will take a couple of days. In the mean time the arrest of Van Horn has already raised international complications.

## EXTRADITION RESTS ON HOW "POLITICAL" IN TREATY IS DEFINED.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—Whether the man who damaged the Canadian Pacific bridge across the St. Croix River at Vanceboro, Me., may be extradited to Canada depends largely on the interpretation of the word "political" in the extradition treaty of 1850, which declares "a fugitive criminal shall not be surrendered if the offense in respect of which his surrender is demanded be one of a political character."

No request had come to the State Department to-day in the case, and officials were unwilling to express an opinion pending the receipt of further particulars.

## BOY SHOT TO DEATH AS A BREAD THIEF

Grocer Who Did the Killing Says  
"He Laid in Wait for Him"—  
Fired at Second Lad.

CLEVELAND, Feb. 2.—Joseph Findura, forty-five years old, a grocer, was arrested to-day, charged with the murder of Dominic Margold, sixteen years old, who was shot and killed while breaking into a bread box left in the doorway of Findura's store by a baker. Findura told the police his bread had been stolen every morning for several weeks, and that early to-day "he laid in wait for the thief."

Findura said he shot from his bedroom window and when Margold fell he fired at another boy, who escaped. Findura then notified the police.

IMPORTED LA CAROLINA Cherries, 10c. per bushel and less Cash—See—Ad.